

NEWS RELEASE

DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

1931 Jefferson Davis Highway, Crystal Mall 3 Arlington, Virginia 22240-5291

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1099-R forms mailed by January 15, 2003

The 2002 1099-R tax forms for all Department of Defense military retirees and annuitants will be mailed by Jan 15, 2003 to the home addresses on file with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS). Former spouses who receive pay as a result of a court ordered division of community property will also receive 1099-Rs mailed by Jan 15, 2003.

The 1099-R form has three copies of personnel information on one page with the form information on the back of the recipient's copy. For example, box 1 (gross distribution) does not contain gross income, but is the total amount of taxable income for the tax year – as shown in box 2a. For retirees, this amount does not include VA compensation or Survivor Benefits Plan premiums, as these monies are non-taxable.

Because the 1099-R is also used to report other types of income, the boxes that do not apply to retired members and annuitants will be left blank or have not been included in the form. For example, boxes 2b and 9 will be blank, and boxes 3, 5, 6, and 8 have been removed from these forms. The remaining boxes correspond to IRS instructions for 1040 and 1040A forms.

Reissue Requests

Retirees or annuitants who do not receive their 1099-Rs by January 31, 2003, have questions about their 1099-R forms or need to update their mailing addresses may contact:

- Air Force Financial Service Office
- Army Retiree Service Office
- Navy Local pay offices in Personnel Support Activity (PSA) networks of Puget Sound (includes Hawaii), San Diego, CA, New London, CT and Jacksonville, FL (includes Pensacola).
- 1099-Rs will also be available on-line through myPay, formerly the Employee/Member Self-Service system. Go to myPay.dfas.mil and enter your Social Security number and PIN in the Login box to access your account. Your PIN will be the same one used for the E/MSS system. You may also gain access at www.dfas.mil. Under Money Matters, click on myPay, then myPay: Enter Here. If you do not have or do not remember your PIN, scroll down to the bottom left hand corner of the myPay home page to Need A New PIN?, and click on New PIN or go to Popular FAQs and click on How Do I Get A New PIN?

- You may also contact DFAS-Cleveland, Retired and Annuity Pay Operations directly at 1-800-321-1080 or 216-522-5955. Customer service representatives are available Monday though Friday, from 7 a.m. 7:30 p.m. EST (except federal holidays). For your convenience during tax season, Saturday service will be available from Jan. 11 through Feb. 22, 2003 from 7 a.m. 3:30 p.m.
- Paydays, or the first business day of each month, are the busiest days for the customer service representatives. Mondays are also busy. When calling to request a reissue of your 2002 1099-R, press 1 when prompted and your call will be forwarded to the next available customer service representative. DFAS-Cleveland will begin processing 1099-R reissues on January 31, 2003. You can expect to receive the reissued 1099-R approximately seven to ten business days after your initial request. 1099-Rs cannot be faxed, they will be mailed.

Written or faxed requests should be sent to one of the following:

Retirees and former spouses:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service US Military Retirement Pay PO Box 7130 London, KY 40742-7130

Fax: 1-800-469-6559

Annuitants:

Defense Finance and Accounting Service US Military Annuitant Pay PO Box 7131 London, KY 40742-7131

Fax: 1-800-982-8459

If you do not receive your 1099-R or you believe it is incorrect, please alert DFAS-Cleveland, Retired and Annuity Pay Operations before April 15, 2003 at 1-800-321-1080 to ensure the problem is resolved before the tax filing deadline.

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About DFAS

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service is the world's largest finance and accounting operation. The agency disburses more than \$1.38 billion per average business day. In fiscal 2002, DFAS paid 5.4 million people, processed more than 10.6 million contractor and vendor invoices and handled nearly 7.3 million travel payments while reducing overall costs to customers by \$136 million. For more about the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, please visit http://www.dfas.mil or call 703-607-2716.

For more information contact Zanell Osowski, (216) 522-5620.